

REMARKS

The office action of March 12, 2007, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that the abstract of the disclosure is objected to for being too long.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-4 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to White et al. in view of the patent to Hino et al.

Finally, it is noted that claims 5-8 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and to overcome the formal rejection.

In connection with the Examiner's objections to the application, applicant has canceled the original Abstract and attached hereto a new Abstract of the Disclosure.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted

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that the objection to the abstract of the disclosure is overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 5 and 9, and added new claims 12-14.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to address the instances of indefiniteness pointed out by the Examiner.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references and particularly to the patent to White et al., it can be seen that this patent discloses a roll shifting system for rolling mills.

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The patent to Hino et al. discloses a four high mill of the paired-roll-crossing type.

The Examiner combined Hino et al. with White et al. in determining that claims 1-4 and 9-11 would be unpatentable over such a combination. Applicant respectfully submits that neither of these references, nor their combination, teach a rolling device as in the presently claimed invention. The combination of references does not teach axial shifting devices that are arranged and act between the rolling stand and the work roll locking mechanism. In White et al. the locking pin 55 engages in the piston laterally. Thus, the shifting device 30, 35, 38, 50 is not between the locking pin 55 and the rolling stand 10, 11.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-4 and 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed references is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

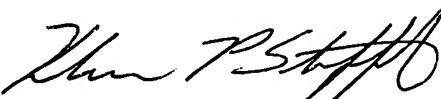
Any additional fees or charges required at this time in

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connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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Dated: June 12, 2007

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 12, 2007.

By: 
Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: June 12, 2007